

Istituto Bruno Leoni Monthly Report

N. 2 – September 2005

Istituto Bruno Leoni (IBL), named after the renowned Italian lawyer and philosopher, was established to encourage public debate from a strictly classical liberal perspective. IBL strives to investigate, to promote and to spread the ideals of the free market, private property, individual liberty, and free trade. IBL publishes both scholarly and popular works, organizes seminars and meetings, publishes articles in the daily press both in Italy and abroad, as well as short studies and briefing papers. Its main purpose is to orient decision-making, inform the public and foster a new generation of intellectuals and scholars devoted to the cause of liberty.



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IBL Report

Events

September 19th, 2005

Loggia di Fra' Giocondo, Piazza dei Signori – Verona

Conference

Antonio Rosmini: libertà, proprietà, persona

(Antonio Rosmini: Liberty, Property, Individual)

Istituto Bruno Leoni – Istituto Adam Smith, Verona

Introduction: *Elio Mosele* (President, Verona Provincial Government)

Chairman: *Nicola Fiorini* (President, Istituto Adam Smith)

Speakers: *Renato Farina* (Libero)

Alberto Mingardi (Istituto Bruno Leoni)

Umberto Muratore (Centro Internazionale di Studi Rosminiani)



19 settembre 2005 – ore 18:00
Loggia di Fra' Giocondo, Piazza dei Signori – Verona

Antonio Rosmini: libertà, proprietà, persona

Saluti: Elio Mosele (Presidente della Provincia di Verona)
Presiede: Nicola Fiorini (Presidente Istituto Adam Smith)
Intervengono: Renato Farina (Libero)
Alberto Mingardi (Istituto Bruno Leoni)
Umberto Muratore (Centro Internazionale di Studi Rosminiani)

September 21st, 2005

Fondazione De Ponti, p.zza Castello 23, Milano

Hayek Cocktail

Analisi economica del diritto e liberalismo: due realtà coincidenti?

(Economic Analysis of Law and Liberalism: Two Identical Notions?)

Istituto Bruno Leoni – Adam Smith Society – Fondazione de Ponti

Speakers: *Alessandro De Nicola* (Presidente, Adam Smith Society)

Carlo Lottieri (Istituto Bruno Leoni)



IBL Istituto Bruno Leoni
The Adam Smith Society
fondazione De Ponti

21 SETTEMBRE, ORE 18:30
FONDAZIONE DE PONTI, P.ZZA CASTELLO 23, MILANO

HAYEK COCKTAIL

*Analisi economica del diritto e liberalismo:
due realtà coincidenti?*

L'Istituto Bruno Leoni, Adam Smith Society e
Fondazione de Ponti vi invitano ad un nuovo
"Hayek Cocktail".

Intervengono:
Alessandro De Nicola
(Presidente, Adam Smith Society)
Carlo Lottieri
(Istituto Bruno Leoni)

Dopo l'incontro, sarà offerto un rinfresco
RSVP info@brunoleoni.it o info@adamsmith.it

September 29th, 2005

Grand Hotel Duomo - via San Raffaele 1, Milano

Book Series

La grande storia del pensiero liberale

(Introducing the new series "A History of Liberal Thought – The New Books by Libero")

I nuovi libri di Libero

Istituto Bruno Leoni – Libero

Speakers: *Vittorio Feltri*

Salvatore Carrubba

Luigi Marco Bassani

Chairman: Alberto Mingardi

IBL
Istituto Bruno Leoni
www.brunoleoni.it

29 settembre 2005 - ore 18:00
Grand Hotel Duomo - via San Raffaele 1, Milano

La grande storia del pensiero liberale

I nuovi libri di **Libero**

Intervengono: Luigi Marco Bassani
Salvatore Carrubba
Vittorio Feltri
Modera: Alberto Mingardi

RSVP: info@brunoleoni.it

September 30th, 2005

Grand Hotel Duomo - via San Raffaele 1, Milano

Healthcare Seminar

Politiche di contenimento della spesa e libertà di scelta del paziente

(Cost Containment Policies and Patient Choice)

Istituto Bruno Leoni

Presenter: *Eline van den Broek* (Edmund Burke Foundation)

IBL
Istituto Bruno Leoni

30 settembre 2005 - ore 10:30
Grand Hotel Duomo - via San Raffaele 1, Milano

IBL
Istituto Bruno Leoni

L'Istituto Bruno Leoni è lieto di invitare la S.V. al seminario sul tema:

Politiche di contenimento della spesa e libertà di scelta del paziente

Interviene: *Eline van den Broek* (Edmund Burke Foundation)

RSVP: info@brunoleoni.it o 011-0702087



I misfatti dell'istruzione pubblica

(The Crimes of Public Education)

by Denis de Rougemont

Among the brightest intellectuals in the Twentieth century, Denis de Rougemont is mainly known for his writings on the cultural roots of the European civilization – as for example in his *L'amour et l'Occident* – and for his long struggle in favour of federalist principles. In this short work written in 1929, when de Rougemont was still very young, he attacks the inhuman face of public school, an institution that stifles all creativity and deliberately aims to regiment children, subjugate consciences, extinguish all individual aspiration to autonomy and strives to make of each student a tame and compliant citizen of the modern mass democracies.

As emphasized by Father Bruno Bordignon and Alberto Mingardi in their respective introductory essays, almost eighty years later the Swiss author's burning diatribe is still convincingly pertinent, and calls each of us to free education from the stifling guardianship of the State and give it back to civil society and the plurality of its cultures.

Denis de Rougemont was born in Neuchâtel, Switzerland, in 1906 and died in Geneva in 1985. He was amongst the pre-eminent thinkers in the Personalist movement (in 1934 he published *Politique de la personne*), but he became known in 1939, when he published his *L'amour et l'Occident*, which quickly became one of the most controversial works of the time. After World War II he advocated an idea of federalism strongly rooted in the Swiss experience, oriented towards an emphasis on pluralism and regional autonomies.

September 3rd, 2005 – IBL Lettere n.1

Il cittadino Demei

(“Citizen Demei”)

by Giovannino Guareschi

Food for thought after the summer holidays. It is in this spirit that the Istituto Bruno Leoni offers this short story by Giovannino Guareschi, courtesy the kind permission of his children Carlotta and Alberto. In this story the great Italian writer tells the tale of the old ironsmith Demei, who forbids his son to break the seals put on his study by the tax inspectors, even though the drug that could save his life is in a cabinet inside it. An ironic and sad story that tells how in the eyes of the government, a man's worth is only measured as his ability and willingness to be taxed.

This short story was first published in the review *Candido* n.43 on October 21st, 1956 and was subsequently republished in the collection *Baffo racconta* (Milano: Rizzoli, 2004): pp.41-52. The Istituto Bruno Leoni wishes to thank Carlotta and Alberto Guareschi for their kind permission to republish this short story in our series “IBL Lettere.”

Download pdf (in Italian): [IBL Lettere](#)

September 5th, 2005 – Briefing Paper n.23

Distribuzione e prezzi del farmaco
(*Distribution and drug prices: An ever shorter cover between Europe and the US*)

BRIEFING PAPER IBL

by Alberto Mingardi and Carlo Stagnaro

The debate on drug reimportation from Canada trained the spot, in the United States and therefore in the rest of the world, on a significant, albeit often unspoken issue. Facing the fact that the US is the largest market in the world for consumption of pharmaceutical drugs, the American patient pays a significantly higher price for his drugs than his European counterpart.

Download pdf (in Italian): [Briefing Paper 23](#)

Download pdf (in English): [Briefing Paper 23](#)

September 28th, 2005 – Occasional Paper n.19

La cultura liberale in Italia: storia, limiti, prospettive
(*Liberal Culture in Italy: History, Limits, Prospects*)

OCCASIONAL PAPER IBL

by Salvatore Carrubba

“The status of minority of Italian liberalism is not written in history.” Thus Salvatore Carrubba opens this overview and assessment of the liberal thought in Italy. After a brief but insightful account of the history of Italian liberalism, the author investigates strengths and weaknesses of this school of thought and concludes by reaffirming the need for Italian liberals to offer coherent and rigorous standpoints on all issues and underlining the fundamental importance of a widespread diffusion of the truest principles of liberalism in the world of culture and information.

Download pdf (in Italian): [Occasional Paper 19](#)

September 5th, 2005 – IBL Focus n.9

La flat tax è incostituzionale?

(Is the flat-tax unconstitutional?)

by Silvio Boccalatte

The recently proposed introduction of a flat-tax in a number of European countries have been countered by the observation that—at least in Italy—a single tax rate might violate the constitutional provision for a progressive rate of taxation. In this IBL Focus the young public law scholar Silvio Boccalatte shows with many mentions of the relevant case law that in actual fact a flat-tax is perfectly compliant with the Italian Constitution, which does not mandate a progressive rate, as instead a tax system which is progressive in its whole.

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September 22nd, 2005 – IBL Focus n.10

“Verità parallele”. Commercio parallelo dei farmaci e sicurezza

(Parallel Truths and the Great Drug Shuffle)

by Peter J. Pitts

Is the re-importation of drugs safe? This is the question to which Peter J. Pitts, former FDA Commissioner, tries to give an answer from an American perspective that is nonetheless relevant for the European consumer. Last year 140 million individual drug packages were parallel imported throughout the European Union, each of which has been repackaged by wholesalers. This often causes the labels of the new packages to sport wrong or outdated information. This practice entails severe safety issues, to which it is to be added the economic damage for manufacturers. The latter are thus twice harmed, first by price controls imposed by the several governments, than by the re-importation of drugs, which undercuts profits. In such a predicament, the incentive to innovate is bound to further erode.

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IBL Report



1) Section “Theory and Current Events”

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Il Corriere del Veneto, September 7th, 2005, [Elogio della libertà di parola. Il Veneto e i diritti fondamentali](#), by Paolo Bernardini

L'Indipendente, September 7th, 2005, [L'America di Bush dopo Katrina](#), by Carlo Lottieri

Istituto Bruno Leoni, September 7th, 2005, [Responsabilità individuale e progresso](#), by Carlo Lottieri

Liberio, September 16th, 2005, [Lo Stato ladro ora vuole rapinarci la vita. L'ombra del Grande Fratello](#), by Alberto Mingardi

Istituto Bruno Leoni, September 22th, 2005, [Pulizie etniche anti-francesi nell'America coloniale. Gli “Acadians” a 250 anni dall'espulsione](#), by Paolo Bernardini

Il Tempo, September 24th, 2005, [Speranze e destino dei liberali](#), by Alberto Mingardi

Istituto Bruno Leoni, September 27th, 2005, [New Orleans: come ricostruirla? Dopo i disastri by Katrina e di Rita](#), by Paolo Bernardini

L'Indipendente, September 26th, 2005, [L'ircocervo di Enrico Boselli. Cosa c'è in comune tra socialisti e liberali?](#) by Carlo Lottieri

L'Arena, September 23rd, 2005, [Rosmini e la sapienza politica](#), by Giovanni Masciola

badtaste.it, September 26th, 2005, [La verità su Tolkien. Recensione del volume di Alberto Mingardi e Carlo Stagnaro](#). by Ismael

Liberio, September 29th, 2005, [I classici del pensiero liberale](#), by Alberto Mingardi

L'Indipendente, September 30th, 2005, [Oneto e l'elogio delle piccole comunità. “Piccolo è libero”: sulle orme di Gianfranco Miglio](#), by Carlo Lottieri

Zenit.org, September 30th, 2005, [Antonio Rosmini, un maestro per i tempi moderni](#), Intervista ad Alberto Mingardi

Liberio, September 30th, 2005, [Presentata a Milano la collana dei classici del pensiero liberale](#), by Alessandro Gnocchi

2) Section “Competition and Globalization”

Il Sole 24 Ore, September 4th, 2005, [Quante leggerezze su San Mercato. Sartori, l'ambiente, l'energia](#), by Alessandro De Nicola

La Provincia di Como, September 5th, 2005, [Il caro bollette non si ferma con gli scioperi. L'iniziativa dei consumatori colpisce il bersaglio sbagliato](#), by Carlo Stagnaro

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L'Unione Sarda, September 19th, 2005, [La vittoria di Pirro di Angela Merkel. Possibile una nuova consultazione elettorale](#), by Carlo Lottieri

Istituto Bruno Leoni, September 19th, 2005, [La democrazia e il popolo maori. Una pesante eredità coloniale](#), by Paolo Bernardini

L'Opinione, September 20th, 2005, [Gli inutili scioperi contro prezzi e carovita. Si attaccano i commercianti, e si ignora il carico fiscale](#), by Marco Bertoncini

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Il Sole 24 Ore, September 25th, 2005, [“Stabilità, senso etico, credibilità: Italia da commedia dell'arte”. Il parere del ‘veterano’ della City Rudi Bogni](#), by Marco Niada

Il Corriere della Sera, September 26th, 2005, [«Liberiamoci dal protezionismo»](#). Interview with Carlo Lottieri

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Istituto Bruno Leoni, September 30th, 2005, [Il futuro incerto della nuova Polonia. Sconfitta la sinistra, il conflitto è tra liberali e conservatori](#), by Paolo Bernardini

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3) Section “Welfare and Tax Policy”

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e-gazette, September 1st, 2005, [Accisa d’agosto. Le reazioni delle associazioni di categoria e dei consumatori](#)

Il Tempo, September 2nd, 2005, [Meno ICI e cittadini con più responsabilità. La proposta di Sforza Fogliani](#), by Alberto Mingardi

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Il Riformista, September 15th, 2005, [Opinioni tedesche sul prezzo dei farmaci. Angela Merkel alla prova della sanità](#), by Alberto Mingardi

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Liberio, September 19th, 2005, [Riecco la solita vecchia Europa](#), by Alberto Mingardi

4) Sezione “Environment and Energy”

- L'Indipendente*, September 1st, 2005, [Oggi la natura fa meno danni. Qualche considerazione su Katrina](#), by Carlo Stagnaro
- Liberio*, September 1st, 2005, [I non poveri crepino pure. E senza lacrime](#), by Alberto Mingardi
- Il Foglio*, September 3rd, 2005, [Sicurezza, una lettera di Lunardi. A proposito del “monopolio naturale”](#), by Pietro Lunardi
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- Italia Oggi*, September 14th, 2005, [Se il legislatore smarrisce l'orientamento. Il vincolismo ambientalista della regione Marche](#), by Marco Bertoncini
- TechCentralStation*, September 16th, 2005, [Last Exit to Kyoto](#), by Carlo Stagnaro
- Il Foglio*, September 16th, 2005, [Il mondo in riserva: il petrolio finirà? Le tesi del pessimista Campbell e dell'ottimista Bradley](#), by Carlo Stagnaro
- Il Domenicale*, September 21st, 2005, [Un uragano di mezze verità](#), by Carlo Stagnaro
- Il Corriere della Sera*, September 21st, 2005, [Riserve di petrolio alla prova del boom di Cina e India](#), by Benedetto Della Vedova
- La Provincia by Como*, September 21st, 2005, [Non si aiuta l'ambiente imponendo divieti. Il blocco delle automobili](#), by Carlo Lottieri



OUR INSTITUTE

The mission of Istituto Bruno Leoni (IBL), named after the renowned Italian lawyer and philosopher, is to encourage public debate from a strictly classical liberal perspective. IBL strives to investigate, to promote and to spread the ideals of the free market, private property, individual liberty, and free trade. IBL publishes both scholarly and popular works, organizes seminars and meetings, publishes articles in the daily press both in Italy and abroad, as well as short studies and briefing papers. Its main purpose is to orient decision-making, inform the public and foster a new generation of intellectuals and scholars devoted to the cause of liberty.



OUR AIM

Our philosophy is known under a number of labels: “liberal,” “individualist,” “libertarian.” Names do not matter. What really matters is instead our pledge to what Lord Acton called “the highest political end: individual liberty. In an age in which the enemies of freedom seem to regain strength, IBL aims to promote the spread of ideas on liberty through rigorous and accurate research, which at the same time can be accessible to a broader audience.